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Washington Sentinel.

EDITED BY WM. M. OVERTON AND CH. MAURICE SMITH.

CITY OF WASHINGTON.

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FREE-SOIL PRESS AND THEIR STRATAGEMS.

A strong effort is made by the free-soil press to convince the people of the United States that the sympathies and feelings of the President are all with them. All that they write, all that they say, all that they do, is predicated on the assumption that he agrees in sentiment with that wing of the New York democracy, which, up to the time of the Syracuse convention, has confessedly fraternized with factionists and disorganizers. The free-soilers will not deny that for years past they have been recusants-that they have refused the oath of allegiance to their party-that they abandoned the national democratic organization-that they erected the Buffalo platform, and superadded to all the iniquities and enormities of that platform the advocacy of Martin Van Buren for the Presidency in opposition to General Cass, the regular nominee of the democratic party. They will not deny that their recusancy was continued after the election, and that it manifested itself in bitter denunciations of the fugitive-slave law, and in throwing difficulties and obstructions in the way of its execution. They cannot deny that their infamy was completed by gravely swallowing down, at Syracuse, all that they had violently repudiated before, and by repudiating, at the same place and at the same time. all that they had hitherto sworn to. We have said that they will not and cannot deny these things. Perhaps we go too far. For men who have sounded the depths of ignominy, there are no such words as these.

Do they hope to convince the people of the United States that the sympathies of such a man as Franklin Pierce-so pure, so high-toned, so chivalrous-can be with them, and that the vials of his wrath will be poured out on his old and steadfast friends, the national democrats? It is truly a piece of presumption. It is a fraud upon the public. It is doing the gross est injustice to the President. The day will come—let them mark the prediction—and we hope that it is at hand, when their impudence will meet with a withering rebuke, and when their misdeeds will be visited with a merited punishment.

Their policy is to gain friends and adherents by producing the impression that the good will and the good wishes of the administration are with them. They desire to create the belief that the administration regards all as its enemies who oppose them. Nor has this stratagem altogether failed. Whilst we know to the contrary, yet many believe that the free-soilers have been taken under the protecting wing of the administration, and that the old-line democracy have been cast off and rejected as unworthy. This belief has been encouraged and promoted by the reserve which has characterized the President from the time of his nomination up to this hour. They know that it is not his habit, nor would it comport with his personal or official dignity, to seize on every occasion to make his opinions known. The President speaks in his acts. He speaks when it is necessary and proper, and he speaks clearly and distinctly.

Let no one be deterred from co-operating the President regards them as his enemies. We believe that the President has too much generosity and too much sagacity to entertain such a sentiment. We believe that he knows the national democrats to be his true and desinterested friends. That there are good friends of the President and of the country among the party whom we have denounced, we know full well; they are honest men, they are true men: but they are misguided, and we do not doubt that the day will come when their error will be as manifest to them as it is distinctly clear to us.

HOW BLOWS THE WIND!

It will hardly be disputed by anybody, that "straws show which way the wind blows." and nobody will question the direction of the wind when it forces a tile from the house-top, which strikes you in the face. Its course then is unmistakable. It is impressed by its messenger, the aforesaid tile, upon the senses, beyond any dispute. So in politics. Men are regarded as sound or unsound, with confidence or suspicion, accordingly as they conduct themselves. We cannot regard him sound or worthy of confidence whose past life has been one of tergiversations, shifts, evasions, not to say treachery and treason, even if he professes suddenly to become a penitent and a repudiator of his former conduct and opinions. *Be he soever zealous and loud in declaring the honesty of his conversion, the remembrance of his previous bad deeds will irresistibly beget a suspicion that his tears of repentance are but the pumpings of a mercenary and guilty heart. Therefore, we say of all political converts whose ante-

cedents are of a suspicious character-"Commend not, till a man be clearly known;
A rescal praised, you make his faults your own."

The "straws" which we see flying about the atmosphere of New York and of Missouri, show clearly to us, and should to others, the direction of the wind in those quarters. But occasionally, in "the fullness of the heart, the mouth speaketh," and instead of a zephyr, which plays with "straws" and feathers, we have a squall of wind, and we are compelled to dodge a "tile" from the house-top. Here is one from the New York Evening Post of the 5th inst. Speaking of the existing fugitive-slave law, it says:

"We hold it (the fugitive-slave law) to be unconstitutional as well as injudicious and

Now, when we consider that this journal its ablest editors was present at Syracuse and Martin Grover, John Van Buren, John Coch. an owl." rane, and Isaac V. Fowler-that the "soft" ticket was nominated under his and their authe professions of such men?

Yet is it gravely discussed by a few, which cratic party.

are the true men of the State of New York? Ave. more. The Evening Post is regarded as a friend of the administration, while the National Democrat is denounced as its enemy. The Albany Atlas is pronounced orthodox. and the Albany Argus a dissenter. And such men as DANIEL S. DICKINSON, who bravely withstood the torrent of free-soil and abolition such as Van Buren and Grover are held up, par excellence, as the peculiar friends of General Pierce! When before was it ever attemptpublic judgment upon them.

FETE TO MR. GEORGE N. SAUNDERS, U. S. CONSUL TO LONDON.

We transfer to our columns, from the Na onal Democrat, N. Y., the following spirited account of a brilliant entertainment, recently given to Mr. George N. Saunders, on board the North Carolina, which is now lying off the

Brooklyn navy-yard. Mr. Saunders will start on his mission about the 15th. He will carry with him the good wishes of as many friends as any man can boast. No man could have a clearer conception of the duties of the responsible post to which he has been called than Mr. Saunders; nor could any one be animated with a more de-termined purper to do justice to his country and all her citizens. We wish him a pleasant voyage and a safe return.

"Captain Samuel C. Reid (formerly of the brig General Armstrong, which made such effective daughter in the war of 1812 off Fayat,) gave a matinee dansante yesterday on board the United States ship North Carolina, lying off the Brooklyn navy yard, to a very distinguished and numerous party of ladies and gentlemen.

"The occasion was the approaching departure of George N. Saunders, esq., and lady for London, and the festivity happily afforded the numerous friends of our distinguished consul and his amiable and gifted lady with an opportunity to meet hem, and take a pleasant and a hearty farewell efore the arduous duties of Mr. Saunders shall call

m to the scene of his official labors.
"We have rarely enjoyed or entered into the pirit of any like festivity as we did that on yes spirit of any lac festivity as we did that on ves-terday. We were accordingly gratified to witness such a crowd of Mr. Saunders friends—personal, political, and literary—socially paying him that compliment which his nationality so well merits. There were distinguished gentlemen from almost very State in the Union, and as for the ladies, ewitching and beautiful as they certainly were they were from all parts of America-in and out

"We must not dwell on the rare and brilliant representatives of the latter, nor dare harber in our editorial head any of the vivacious pranks and atterances of the too beautiful members of the reft-er sex present, or we fear that our adamantine nerves would be hard-ly able to withstand them. The beauty and genius of New York were ably represented, and while there were present whigs and democrats, patriots, politicians, beautiful wonen, and brave men, private coats and epauletted, here was the most *real* and delightful harmony ossible, and but one word in the mouths of all-ad that was expressive of delight and enjoyment "The dancing commenced soon after twelve oon, and as we left about half-past seven, there were various votaries of Terpsichore moving in the whirling mazes of the polka and Schottisch.

"On the approach of Mr. Saunders and his lady to the North Carolina, a salute of seven guns was

fired by the Commodore.

"Buring the evening, the veteran Captain S. C. Reid received his friends, with that heartiness so characteristic of the deep melody and buoyaney of the sea, on which he has won such enduring lau-rels. Many testations of respect were paid him

dy from those present. e understand Mr. Saunders sails on the 15th.

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY.

The following account of the visit of the distinguished Secretary of the Navy to the naval station and dock-yard, at Philadelphia, is extracted from the Philadelphia Evening Argus:

THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY .- The Hon. Jas. C. Dobbin, Secretary of the Navy, escorted by Cap-tain Magruder of the navy, arrived in our city yesterday, and took up their quarters at McKib-bin's Merchants' Hotel. During the afternoon Secretary Dobbin was called upon by the Hon George M. Dallas, and a number of our most dis-tinguished citizens. Mr. Dobbin is on an official tour of inspection to the naval depots and dock yards of the northern and eastern States, into the whole management of which he intends to instiute a most particular and searching inquiry, with view of reforming abuses if they exist, and also of infusing into every department of the naval nost active and progressive spirit

economy and despatch.

Already the dock yard at this port has felt the cffect of the fostering care of Mr. Dobbin. Three vessels have been ordered to this station for refitting and repairs, under the authority of the present that in the future, Philadelphia, with her matchless facilities for ship-building and repairing, and the well-earned fame of her mechanics, will not be overlooked in the distribution of labor by the gen eral government. The present visit of Secretary Dobbin to our dock-yard and naval depot, will enable him, with his peculiar business perspicuity to see that all the representations made in favor o the advantages of this station are well founded and that he has not been mistaken in the bestowa of his attention upon the mechanics of this State and city.

This morning, at 11 o'clock, the Hon. Secretary n company with Captain Magruder, U.S. N.: Car tain Baily, of the sloop-of-war St. Mary's, now un der sailing orders at our navy-yard; Commande der saling orders at our havy yate, Geissenger. U. S. N.; Captain Day, navy agent; Hon. Thos. B. Florence, Hon. John Robbins, jr., Hon. William H. Wittee; John Miller, esq., post-master, and J. B. Sutherland, visited the naval master, and J. B. Sutherland, visited the naval station and dock-yard at this port, and was received with a salute from the sloop-of-war Cyane and steamer Fulton, now lying at this station for repairs. After inspecting the marine barracks and the different workshops connected with the dockyard, the party were escorted on board the receiving ship, and the sloop-of-war St. Mary's, steamer Ful-ton, and the sloop-of-war Cyane, where the usual ceremonies due to the head of the naval department of the government took place.

A most thorough inspection was made of all these Secretary seemed to be determined that nothing should escape his attention that could, in the least, add to his knowledge as to the count, in the least, and we have a court could condition of the different vessels now at our dock-yard. The plain easy manner of Mr. Dobbin, and the fund of practical information he possesses on all subjects connected with his position, make him a favorite with all who are in any manne associated with him in the discharge of his publi duties; and his visit to this naval station cannot fail to have the most beneficial effect. Mr. Dobbin leaves this city te-morrow for New York in connexion with the same line of duties which engaged his attention at this place.

HON. JEFFERSON DAVIS.

At a meeting of the "old men's whig general committee, of New York," a resolution was offered, which animadverted in harsh terms on General Davis, our honored Secretary of War.

Than General Davis there lives not a brave or a better man, a firmer or more disinterested stands at the head of the "soft" or free-soil patriot. He has been true to his country on press in the State of New York-that one of the battle field and in the halls of council, This is not the first time that an "eagle towerin constant and confidential association with ing its pride of place has been hawked at by

The Secretary of War is too firmly establish ed in the confidence of the American people to spices, and the resolutions of that convention be in ured by attacks from any quarter. Denun adopted by their joint advisement, we are com- ciation, from those who have all along been his pelled to ask, what degree of confidence can enemies, can have no other effect than to show the democratic party of the country place in that he remains firm, steadfast, and unyielding in his devotion to the principles of the demo-

NEW YORK WHIG NOMINATIONS.

The convention of the whig party of the State of New York have completed their ominations for State officers. The great body of the convention was composed of "Sewardites," or, in other words, abolitionists. There was a small minority of "silver greys," or whigs in favor of the compromise, but so deficient fanaticism, are put down as disorganizers, while in numbers and spirit, that the nominations, seemed to meet with no opposition.

The convention passed but two resolutions of a local character, postponing, for the time ed to place Franklin Pierce in a category so being, in hope to blind the national whigs, their incongenial to his every impulse, so false to real abolition sentiments. The candidates very act upon the record of his whole life! nominated are E. W. Leavenworth, Secretary Men who would attempt this are made up of of State: J. M. Cook, Comptroller: Orden nought but inconsistencies, and this will be the Hoffman, Attorney General; Cornelius Gardner, for Canal Commissioner; Thomas Kirkpatrick, Superintendent of State Prison; John T. Clarke, State Engineer; Benj. F. Harwood, Clerk of the Court of Appeals; George Wood and Joseph Mullen, Judges.

The resolutions adopted by the convention make a platform hitherto unknown in the annals of a great political party. It says nothing about the tariff-about the Pacific railroadabout the Koszta affair-about the compremise which saved the Union-about Cubaindeed, it says nothing about matters of national moment. They have more decency, however, being abolitionists, than the free-soil faction in that State: they do not avow doctrines and sentiments merely to obtain and retain place, and "spit" upon them as "accursed and infamous." The following are the resolutions which compose the whig platform:

Resolved, That the speedy enlargement of the Eric canal and the completion of the material lateral canals is a whig measure now, as it has always been; that we pledge to the amendments of ways been; that we piedge to the amendments of the constitution, so honorably carried through by the aid of independent and patriotic democrats, our cordial support; and we hail with satisfaction the prospect of, a speedy conclusion, under whig management, so necessary to the greatness and prosperity of our State.

Resolved, That the State ticket nominated by this convention is worthy of the support of every elector of the State, and that we will elect it.

PENNSYLVANIA.

In another column will be found a cheering ecount of a grand rally of the democracy in the Northern Liberties. Addresses were deliv ered by Col. W. F. Small, William Badger, John H. Markland, Esgrs., Hon. Thomas B. Florence, S. Snyder Leidy, and others. The speeches of Mr. Florence and Mr. Markland are pronounced the most pointed and powerful of

[Communicated.] St. Cloud -- The Tomb of Lafayette--Pere la

The following notices of these very interest ing places are taken from a letter written by a citizen of Washington to a friend. He says: I have just returned from a gratifying visit to the dilage and palace of St. Cloud, and to a

portion of the grounds attached to the palace. This palace is now the summer residence of the present emperor and empress of France. It is about six miles from Paris, and, on account of its historical associations, is one of the most interesting places to visit in the environs of the city. It was one of the favorite chateaux of Napoleon; and it was here, as you may remember, that he effected his grand coun d' ctat in November, 1799, which placed him at the head of the government of France. I have een in the very room where this was done. St. Cloud was a favorite place of resort, too of the unfortunate Marie Antoinette, who caused

many of the buildings to be erected. Henry III. of France, was assassinated here by a monk named Clement. The park is beautifully laid out, and is adorned with statuary. The in terior of the chateau is finished in elegantstyle. The rooms are richly ornamented with gilding, and the walls of most of them are covered with plendid paintings. The fi most gorgeous character-splendid mirrors, chairs covered with satin embroidered with gold, and vases of Sevres porcelain, that fortunes could not purchase. By the way, I have also visited the small village of Sevres, ving contiguous to the town of St. Clond, where this costly porcelain was manufactured, and seen there all the beautiful specimens of the various kinds of porcelain, that are better made in that establishment than at any other place in the world.

But the most interesting place to me that I have yet visited is the tomb of LAFAYETTE. There is a small private cemetery, called Picpus, belonging to a convent now in the posses sion of the "Dames des Sacres Cœurs," within the enclosure of the convent walls in this cemetery repose the remains of Lafav ette, one of the purest statesmen, the friend o Washington, A plain slab of black marble narks the spot where he reposes-and by his side a similar slab shows the resting place of his wife. The two slabs are joined together and incline from each other like the roof of a nouse. A cross, sculptured upon the ridge of their junction, indicates their unity. Near them are the remains of their son, George Washington Lafayette, a daughter, and several other members of the family. Their resting place is in a corner of the cemetery, and a plain ron railing incloses their simple monuments The remains of several other noble families are

also interred in this small cemetery of Piepus. Speaking of a cemetery at Paris, it is not adssible to leave anmentioned the cemetery of cemeteries-Pere la Chaise-the first place hat all strangers here think of visiting. I coness that I was rather disappointed in it. It does not compare, in point of natural beauty. nor even in monumental sculpture, with our Mount Auburn, or the Brooklyn cemetery, or Laurel Hill. The prevailing style of monument s a small chapel, of a single room, an altar being erected in it, with a couple of chairs or each side for the disconsolate mourner to kneel on, whilst offering up a prayer to the Holy Virgin for the soul of the departed loved one. general effect of the cemetery is altogether too metropolitan, and even the roads through it are paved, like the streets of a city, with square blocks of stone. Our spirits, when they walk out of their gloomy day-prison houses, by moonlight, to revisit the scenes of life, do not want paved streets to glide through-their tastes are more rural, I am sure-and they love the green sloping banks by the lake, where the willow is drooping. For such a place they would seek in vain at Pere la Chaise. Yet this cemetery, from association, and the many noble spirits that sleep here their last sleep, is the ost interesting place of sepulture in the

We will leave all the attractions of Paris in few days, and depart for London, whe shall probably remain a week. Afterwards, we intend to go to Scotland, and thence to Ireland the home of my forefathers, you know-and ve will leave for New York in the first steamer of the "Collins' Line." I have a great many equaintances going out in that steamer, and ave no doubt that we shall make a very pleas ant voyage. I love the sea, and look for with much pleasure to the time when I shall be once more ploughing its wild tossing waves on the way to my native land. This is a proud feeling, mon ami, and I hope you may experience it some of these days. An revoir.

Sloop of War Albany. The United State sloop-of-war Albany lies at anchor in the North river, opposite Castle Garden. It is said that she will said in a few days, but that she will probably remain here until the arrival of the frigate Columbia. The Albany is a beautiful looking craft, and

Great Democratic Meeting

EMOCRATIC MEETING IN THE NORTHERN LIB-EBTIES.—The grand rally of the democracy of this old democratic district took place last evening, in front of the Commissioners' Hall, in Third street; and the attendance was such as to fully settisfy all that the fire of democratic enthusiasm is blazing in that district. The entire street, in front of the stage, was densely packed at the hour for comring the meeting, and the crowd was swelle mencing the meeting, and the crowd was swelled still further as the exercises proceeded, until the numbers equalled any ever convened at a political meeting in that district. The stage was finely illuminated with white and colored lamps, and decorated with flags, which presented a brilliant and beautiful appearance. At the appointed time the meeting was called to order, and the following offerers are visited:

PRESIDENT-John H. Frick, Esq.

VICE PRESIDENTS. First Ward .- Peter Armbruster, Geo. F. Good

an. Second Ward.—John G. Smith, Fayette Pierson. Third Ward.—Daniel M. Fox, George Butts. Fourth Ward.—Edward Wartman, Robert M. ogan. Fifth Ward.—James Landy, Thomas March-

Sixth Ward.—John Apple, sr., Lewis Shinnick Seventh Ward.—James S. Watson, Chas. Geis SECRETARIES. First Ward .- Daniel S. Beideman. Secand Ward.—Charles S. Lincoln Third Ward.—Lewis Pearce. Fourth Ward.—Samuel Foering Fifth Ward.—George C. Leidy. Sixth Ward. - Lewis T. Mears

Seventh Ward.—Lewis 1. Mears.

After the announcement of the officers, James Goodman, Esq., the chairman of the Committee on Resolutions, offered the following series, which were unanimously adopted:

"Resolved, That we approve of, and will sup ort, at the coming election, the regularly nomina ted democratic candidates for State, county, and municipal offices, having confidence in their ability, intelligence and integrity; and believing that he interests of our community will be served their success.

"Resolved, That we regard the administration of

Franklin Pierce, President of the United States, with feelings of pride and pleasure, marked, as al-his public acts have been, with a lofty and unbending patriotism; guarding with zealous care the zens at home; causing every man to exult in the proud title of an American citizen.

"Resolved, That we entirely approve of the in urgural address of President Pierce, and rejoice in the enunciation of the sound democratic in the enunciation of the sound democratic doctrines contained therein, and firmly believe that the federal Union can only be preserved by a faithful adherence to the Constitution, the preservation of the rights of the States, and liberties of he people.
"Resolved, That the recent letter of the Secre

tary of State to the Austrian minister, on the subject of the seizure of Martin Koszta, in the port of Smyrna, meets with our approval, and we congratulate our fellow-citizens that the national government is now administered in a manner grat-ifying to the friends of freedom throughout the Resolved, That the honest, upright and manly

course of William Bigler, governor of this com-monwealth, has won for him the esteem of all good men, and is a safe assurance that the respon sible duties and powers incident to his office safe in his hands."

The meeting was then addressed by Col. W. F. Small. William Badger. esq., John H. Markland, esq., Hon. Thomas B. Florence, S. Snyder Leidy, and others. We regret that space will not permit us to give a sketch of the speeches of Mr. Markland, Col. E. land and Col. Florence. They were decidedly the most pointed and powerful of the campaign, and told with evident effect upon the meeting. Mr. Markland's picture of the dissolving character of the whig nominations, and his sketch of the native candidate for marshal of police, was a masterly effort, replied to by bursts of enthusiastic applause. Mr. Florence spoke of the necessity of party organization on all occasions, and drew a beautiful illustration of the benefit of such a course in the growth and progress of our city under the bright influence of democratic rulers elected by such strict party discipline. His appeal to the demo-cracy to stand firm by the old party, its principles, and its candidates in this day of factions and isms. was well conceived, eloquently expressed, and warmly responded to by the meeting. At a late warmly responded to by the meeting. At a late hour the meeting adjourned with hearty cheers for the whole regularly nominated democratic ticket for State, county, and municipal officers.

Twilight in the Village.

How softly falls twilight in the village! The goods are crowned with red, and the hills fade from crimson to purple. A holy radiance shines in the blue transparency of the skies. The birds twitter bits of song, as they fold their page for rest. One star, out betimes. ight evening through its cloud-path, trembles at its own beauty, mirrored in the placid river. In peace the sun is sinking behind the hills. Peace is written on field, flower and leaf. Peace seems falling from Heaven like the dev that sinks in the heart of earth. The low hum of human voices is rather the melody of si ence than its disturber.

Down the hilly, winding road comes the loaded wain. High-perched in the midst of the fragrant hay-mound, sits a vellow-haired child -tricky as a sprite, an oat-plume in his brimess hat, a bunch of gaudy burs in his hand Ah! life will weave thee some crown of thorns, my boy, even more rapidly, more surely, than thou thy field treasures; thou canst not throw by like those.

Black Pomp frisks by his master's side as he guides the lumbering oxen. The old man is tired. And who shall say what unwritten poetry swells his bosom as he sees wife and pabes in the mellow distance. Sure of welcome—happy rustic he! No city splendor for im-but large shares of heart and home.

In a hundred kitchens the snowy cloth is pread. On a hundred hearts the boiling kettle bubbles its merry music. Out go mothers to gather in the straggling children from garen and hill-side. How the berries have stained hem-lip, cheek, frock, and fingers, and wha boots chiding! They will do the same to-mor row. From hill-side streams come the elder poys, their hands full of tiny fish, and little girls haste from their mimic gardens, leaving their broken twiggs to shoot into trees, as the

fondly hope.

Neighbor hails neighbor, as he shakes the lust from his shoes, and lifts the latch from his gate, driving before him to their shelter a crowd of hens and chickens. Here and there white-headed patriot puts lingeringly from his sight his favorite newspaper, folds the old hornimmed spectacles away in a case, worn like nimself, and hobbles into the call of a supper Yonder, where a spectre hand, white as death, folds back the muslin curtain, the poor con sumptive woos the cool, sweet breath of eve ning, as it comes with stars in its crown of re

Now, on the stillness floats the secret song Childish ringlets are crushed between dimple hand and cheek, grey locks soften with their silvery outlines and horny palms. Heads are bent reverently, and through the solemn hush, ip to the angels who minister in the good iomes, are waited simple prayers, and they pear them to the Father. Now curtains are ingathered and shutters locked, but between crack and crevice gleam out their yellow raysfrom the sick room-from the student's chan per-from the kitchen, rich only in cleanliless-come those little ministers of light. And they stream out—out over the white fences, over the brown hedges, clear through to the water's brink. And there, clustering about the silver wake of the moon, they dance and glitter till the rustic bridge frightens them away with its shadow—till departing day's drowsy glance melts into sleep and twilight is ended.

A Good Arrangement.-We learn that a rep esentation having been made by the United States onsul of this city to the Postmaster General at Washington, informing the department of the inconvenience experienced in transporting heavy eags of mail matter across the Isthmus, the latter unctionary has issued an order to the effect that no mail bags shall be despatched either from the Atlantic or Pacific ports of the United States, to cross the Isthmus of Panama, weighing over one hundred pounds.—Panama Star, 14th ult.

Olive Branch.

Ber Who cannot keep his own secret ought not to complain if another tells it.

From the N. Y. Herald. The Porter Family, and the Pirates and Authorities of Cuba.

AN UNPUBLISHED CHAPTER OF AMERICAN NAVAL To the Editor of the Herald:

It appears that the Havana Diario has been amusing itself in abusing "all the Porters."— A short history of events in which this family have been connected with the Island of Cuba, may not be uninteresting just at this moment. In the year 1808, or thereabouts, several ves sels were cruising in the Gulf of Mexico against Spanish commerce; the consulade of Havana

offered a large reward for the capture of these vessels. Commodore David Porter fitted out an expedition, captured them, and handed the crews and vessels over to the captain-general of Cuba; the former were executed, and the latter sold. With the proverbial honesty of the governors of Cuba, the reward was refused, or it least disputed, on the ground that Commodore Porter, being an officer under the American government, was bound to capture all pirates, fillibusteroes;) but finally, after a long discus sion, the debt of \$80,000 was admitted, but never paid. This claim on Cuba amounts to the neat little sum of \$290,000. In 1821, '22 and '23, when the fillibusteroes (pirates) were infecting the West Indies, and fitted out their crafts in the ports of Cuba, Commodore Porter was appointed by the United States to command a fishing and bay craft, for they were nothing else-to sweep the West Indies of these Cuban fillibusteroes. One of his very first acts was to inform the captain-general o Cuba of certain haunts of the pirates at the Isle f Pines, and even at Regla, in the harbor of Havana. The captain-general refused to aid the American squadron in any way.

The next step of Commodore Porter was to

fit out boats, capture the pirates fitting out at

Regla, and sweep the coast of Cuba with hi little vessels and boats. The gallant officers and seamen who manned them in many a hard fought battle, finally succeeded in finding their naunts, capturing their vessels, and driving these Cuban fillibusteroes from the sea. The affair at Foxardo is two well known to make any comments at this time. This action of our government sent him into the Mexican navy. He carried with him several American officers, and among them Lieutenant David H. Porter. his nephew, and two of his sons, David and He fitted out the Mexican navy, blockaded the coast of Cuba, captured man Spanish vessels, and prevented a large Spanish xpedition from Hayana proceeding to Mexico. During this period Lieutenant Porter, with the rank of captain in the Mexican navy, blockaded the coast of Cuba with an eighteen gun brig called the Guerrera, landed often on the coast penetrated to the interior of the island, and laid heir towns under contribution. In the bay of Mariel he fell in with two Spanish brigs, of equal force with himself, and in twenty minutes compelled them to surrender. While lowering his boat to take possession of them, a Spanish rigate hove in sight, which compelled him to aul off and prepare to meet his new antagonist. The frigate mounted fifty-four heavy guns, with a crew of 550 persons on board; the brig, eighteen guns and 120 officers and men. The action between them lasted two hours and ifty-five minutes, or until the brig had expend ed all her powder. It falling calm, and Capt. Porter being killed, the brig surrendered, with lost of twenty killed and twenty wounded the frigate had one hundred and fifty killed and wounded. Lieut, D. D. Porter, now the commander of the Golden Age, was at the time a

After the surrender, the Spaniards, with their usual magnanimity, rifled the officers and men of their valuables, money, &c., not even forgetting the captain's watch. During the action the frigate's crew deserted their quarters twice and it was with difficulty they could be driven back to their guns. The constant annoyance of Commodore Porter's squadron to Cuba, and the commerce of Spain, compelled the latter to offer peace to Mexico. Previous to Commodore Porter's entering the service of Mexico, the Spanish minister offered to pay the Com-modore \$80,000, the just debt due him from Spain, provided he would not enter the service of Mexico. The commodore refused the bribe, with this remark: "If the debt is a just one, which you have admitted it to be, as an honorable nation, you should pay it: but enter the service of Mexico."

In 1848, at the end of the Mexican war Lieut. W. D. Porter entered the harbor of Ha vana in command of the United States schooner Matoresa, of two guns and thirty men. There was at that time held in bondage an American citizen, a free colored man. The consul of the United States, Wm. Corbell, had endeavored to have him released, but without success. Lieut Porter sent through Mr. Corbell a message to the captain general, informing him that if the American citizen then held in slavery was not brought before the proper tribunals, and the matter investigated, he would blockade the port of Havana. The matter was investigated, the citizen released, and, through the efforts of Mr. Corbell, damages awarded him. The late affair of the Georgia, under command of D. D. Porter, is already fresh in the minds of the people. His determined conduct on that occaion sealed the fate of all the Porters on the island of Cuba, with all the future captain generals of Cuba. All Cuban papers please copy
ONE OF THE PORTERS.

Jullien's Extraordinary Duel.

JULLIEN was first noticed as a leader of the concerts at the Jardin Ture, at Paris, since built A large house now stands where he once stood, as we have also so often seen him in Lon don, with primrose gloves and shirt-cuffs turned up to the elbow, wielding the sceptre of king of the orchestra. It was during his reign at the Jardin Ture, that, according to M. Lecompte, the following accident happened to him. "He had an extraordinary duel, unprecedented, save among Ariosto's fabulous heroes. One of his musicians, who had been fencing master in a regiment, had a dispute with him, and sent him a challenge. Jullien asked a week to prepare or the duel, and his request was granted. the end of that time the encounter took place with swords, and he received a furious thrust. which ran him right through the body, the hilt of the weapon actually resting upon the wound; and his antagonist having naturally let go his sword, Jullien rushed upon him, and in his turn dealt him a desperate blow, after which, having thus revenged himself, he remained erect, with a sword sticking out of his back! Nobody daring to withdraw it, he himself had the energy to pluck it from the wound. It had made itsel passage which, wonderful to relate, interfered with none of the organs essential to life. A month afterwards, Julien had resumed his baton and his primrose gloves, and, pallid and in ele giac attitudes, he once more presided over those concerts, to which the fame of his adventure low attracted all Paris. The circumstances which decided him to quit Paris were, like everything in his life, singular and out of the common way. Having some cause of complaint against the authorities, he revenged himself by the composition of an old posting bill, in which combination of letters, put in larger type than the others, formed, when seen from a distance, a word offensive to the police. He had to run for it, and then it was he went to England."-Lon-

A Desperate Leap. The St. Louis Republican says that one day last week as one of the trains was leaving the Pacific railroad depot, a borse was put in one of the cattle cars, and horse was put in one of the cattle cars, and at once became so much frightened at the strange-ness of his position as to become unmanageable. Finally he became utterly frantic, broke his halter, gave one leap and cleared the top rail of the car. He fell forward, and between the cars on the coupling, where he was supported until the locomotive and cars could be stopped. Before assistance could be rendered, he released himself from his difficult position, and away he bounded over the prairie. He was a good deal bruised, but sustained no serious injury.

Lucky and Unlucky Days.

The belief in lucky and unlucky days is one of the most prevalent of human superstition. There are traces of it among all the nations of human antiquity, and some of more recent date. The 14th day of the first month was esteemed auspicious by the Jews, because it ended their captivity in Egypt. On the other hand, the 10th of August was ill omened; for on that day the first temple was destroyed by Nebu-chadnezzar, and the second by Titus, six hundred years after. The Romans would never undertake any business on the 13th of Febru ary, (Dies Alliensis.) which was the anniversary battle of Allia, when the nation was almost annihilated by the Gauls. The Carthagenians had the same superstition about the 22d of August. Louis XI. of France esteemed it an evil omen if any one spoke to him on business Innocent's Day.

There have been some remarkable coincidences of days in the lives of distinguished men. The same day of the month has not unfrequently been the day of birth and death, and he date of some memorable event. Alexander the Great was born on the 6th of April. On that day he won two of the most important vic-tories, and on that day he died. On that day his father, Phillip, conquered Portidea; and on that day Parmenia, Phillip's general, overcame the Illyrians. Pompey the Great was born and died on the 30th September, and on the same day triumphed on his return from Asia. Augustus was adopted by Julius Cæsar on the 19th of August, and on the 19th of August he died. The wife of Henry VII. was born and died on the 11th of February. Sir Kenelm Digby was born and died on the 11th of June; he conquered at Scanderoon on the same day. His epitaph commemmorates the coincidence

"Under this stone the matchless Digby lies, "Under this stone the matchless Digby lies, Digby the great, the valiant, and the wise; This age's wonder for his noble parts, Skilled in six tongues, and learned in all the arts; Born on the day he died—the eleventh of June, On which he bravely fought at Scanderoon, "Its rare that one and self-same day should be His day of birth, of death, of victory."

Raffaelle was born and died on Good Friday Shakspeare's birth day was also the day of hi death-April 23d. The 24th of February was thrice memorable to Charles V, of Spain, as the day of his birth, the day of his victory over Francis, king of France, and the day on which he received the imperial crown of Bonoma. Charles II, of England, was born and restored to the throne on the 20th May. The 3d of September was marked in the history of Cromrell as the date of the victory at Dunbar, also of that at Worcester, and as the day of his death.

Days of the week have sometimes been sigalized in a similar manner. Tuesday was a day of note to Becket, the English saint. On Tuesday the Lords passed judgment upon him at Northampton; on Tuesday he went into exile; on Tuesday he had a vision in which his doom was foretold to him; on Tuesday he returned from exile; on Tuesday he died, and on Tuesday was cannonized. Wednesday was the lucky day of the celebrated Pope Sixtus V. It was the day of his birth; the day on which he took orders; the day on which he was made general of his order; the day on which he was created cardinal; the day on which he was elected pope, and the day on which he was in-Henry VII called Saturday his augurated ortunate day, as that on which he gained the pattle of Bosworth, and that on which he entered London. It is remarkable that four of the Tudors in succession died on Thursday, beginning with Henry VIII, the second, and ending with Elizabeth, the last of the line.

Ancient calendars designate two days in each

mouth as unfortunate, namely, of January the first and seventh, February the third and fourth, March the first and fourth, April the tenth and eleventh, May the third and seventh, June the tenth and fifteenth, July the tenth and thirteenth, August the first and second. September the third and tenth, November the third and fifth, December the seventh and tenth. Each of these days was devoted to some peculiar fatality. Whether the change of style" introduced towards the close of the last century, by deranging the calendar order, has ffected the character of these days we are unable to say. For our own part we agree with Heraclitus, who blamed Hesiod for calling some days lucky and others unlucky, as not discerning that "the nature of every day is the same." And we heartily subscribe to the one man esteemeth one day above another, another esteemeth every day alike," adds "let every man be fully persuaded in his own mind."—Christian Enquirer.

AN AUTUMNAL RETROSPECT.—These autumn days beget in one's mind reflections, at once sad and attractive. In this season the emerald of forest and field fades by imperceptible de-grees into russet brown. Through crevice and corner the wind sighs in mournful cadences, as if singing the solemn requiem of the depart-ing year. The naked boughs of trees peep out rom their variegated drapery, and the and fallen leaf toys gracefully with the zephyrs the chilly air creeps stealthily over and am the rustling foliage, and brook and rivulet dashes joyously onward, "making music with the enamelled stones

We have arrived at the end of a season marked in a peculiar manner, by the visita-tions of angry Providence. Draw-bridges have yawned in the path of steam engine. The mon strous motor of civilization, scorning the efforts of man to bind it down with steel and iron, has scattered to the winds great ships, and marked the scene of its victories with chastly corpses. The great lines of communieation and travel are red all over with the blood of martyrs. Opposing trains, in mighty madness, have rushed to each other's embrace, and scarcely can there be found a burial place in all our land, that is not the resting place of some murdered victim of "disastrous accident." There are vacant places at many a board and desolation at many a hearth-stone, where sor-

row was unknown, when the spring flower blossomed in our northern home. Yonder, in a beautiful southern city, strong man and maiden have gone done before the breath of the pestilence. No sound disturbs the noiseless monotony of its streets, save the slow rumbling of a funeral cortege, that winds towards "the cities of the dead." Plague stricken and dismayed, the flying population have carried with them the miasma of death to sister States, and the valley of the great Father of Waters" is a Golgotha, as be as the Upas tree-death-dealing like the sirocco. No sprinkling of the door post or lintel stops the entrance of the destroying angel.-It takes the millionare from the palace and the sot from the hovel. It scorns the barriers of rank and social position. It counts among its victims the beauty of the hall-room and the painted prostitute—the high and the low—the master and the slave. The vehicles of trade are freighted with the malaria-the air comes to us tainted with fever. Great fear is abroad in the land. At the exchange board and the council chamber, at the church door and in the parlor-it drives out every topic. Knots men standing at the street corners "Whisper with white lips-it comes! It comes

Anxions friends read the daily lists of the dead, trembling lest the name of the loved one is there. Charity has flowed into the devoted city in plenteous streams. Communities, roast with health, bave held out their hands to aid the distresses of brethren, and jealous sections have forgotten the heats of party strife, in generous rivalry of almsgiving.

Such is the fearful retrospect. It has be a year crowded with gloomy memories. Death, the great reaper, has gone into the harvest, and has come back loaded with spoils. From the presidential mansion to the rudest hamlet our western frontier, he has selected with unsparing hand, his countless victims. doubt if another year so deeply dyed with gore can be found in our vational his

story.
[Phila, Reg.

Mocal and Personal.

The Sultan of Turkey and the Washington Monument.-We learn that a block of marble is now in Constantinople, waiting for a conveyance to the United States, intended by the Sultan as a testimony of his respect for the character and memory of Washington. The carving and inscription are richly gilded. In the centre of what is called the toogra, is the monogram or cipher of the sovereign, and is equivalent to the arms of other countries. It contains the legend: "Abd ul Maiid Khan, son of the Sultan Mahmoud Khan. May his victories be perpetuated." To the right of the toogra is a sprig of fresh roses, which is the particular sign of the present young Sultan. Beneath this are two lines in the Turkish language (which is thus translated into English) with the date of the hegeira, 1,269, A. D. 1853: "To aid in the perpetuation of the friendship existing between the two countries, Abd ul Majid Khan's name is written on the Monument of Washington."

The inscription is a very modest, though a touching one. The act of sending the block of marble is to show respect for the memory of the great and good Washington, and the Sultan states that he has added his own name to it, with a view of aiding in the perpetuation of the friendly relations existing between this republic and his own empire.

A gentleman writing from Turkey, says: Among all the sovereigns now reigning in Europe, constitutional or absolute. I am confident there is no one more liberal or progressive in his principles than the Sultan, who thus testifies his respect for the character of Washington, and amid the contest which is waging everywhere in Europe between the people and these same sovereigns, it is worthy of remark, that though the latter cannot otherwise than feel a profound respect for the memory of one whose principles in the present century is gaining so great an ascendeacy in the minds of men, the young Sultan of Turkey does not hesitate freely to express the sentiments which he entertains.

A Friendless One. On Wednesday night a gentleman brought to the watch-house a white girl, aged about seventeen years, whom he had found in the street, without a shelter or a home She was tolerably well dressed, and in this respect seemed to be at least comfortable. The poor creature had no sooner been provided with as good lodging accommodation as the place affords than she was attacked with fits, which continued, almost without cessation, until the return of the day. Two of the guard remained by her side throughout the night, and kindly endeavored to assuage her intense sufferings. Having no power to send her elsewhere, Captain Birch had her gently conveyed to the Washington Asylum, and took measures to have the Intendent of that institution (Mr. Gettings) made acquainted with the facts in this lamentable case, with a view that she might receive such attentions as her condition requires. It is hoped that better provision may be made for her comfort, through the agency of those who deeply sympathize with her misfortunes.

It is said that she was brought hither by a fam ly from an adjoining State; and, her health fail ing, they turned her from their doors, thus con mitting her to the cold charities of the world.

The Horticultural and Floral Exhibition esterday, was not near so good as that of the last week. We notice a few specimens of very fine fall and winter pears, several large and plump heath peaches, but no apples, except a solitary balsam apple! Mr. Thomas Bladgen exhibited a dish of superb grapes, wax-like in appearance, and said to be remarkably sweet. Lieutenant Minor deposited an egg-plant, from the government observatory. The floral display was mainly confined to a lot of magnificent dahlias, reared by Dr. Paige. and a similar kind of beauties, together with roses. contributed by M. Jardin. The government green-house had no vegetable representatives ves terday, as on all former occasions.

Marines in Troubic. On Wednesday after saying of St. Paul, who after mentioning that barracks not only abused their liberty by getting drunk and maligning the female portion of the household where they procured their liquor, but assaulted one of the police officers of the fourth ward, giving him a black eve. They were arrested, but, by the time Justice Morsell had made out a commitment, they were so far weakened by the effects of their day's dissipation, that they had to be carted down to the work-house, after the manner of captured swine.

> Great Egg-citement .- It is well known to both citizens and strangers, that Mr. George Savage and a party of his friends, are in the habit of holding temperance meetings on Pennsylvania avenue, and at other places out-doors, on the Sabbath day, during the prevalence of fine weather. Last Sunday, while Mr. Savage was speaking before the door of Mr. Upperman, there were occurrences of an unpleasant character, which gave rise, yesterday afternoon, to proceedings before Justice Donn-George Savage vs. A. Hunter.

> A large crowd of persons assembled in the office, and much interest was manifested during the progress of the examination.

> Mr. Savage was represented by Mr. A. T. Herrington, a master painter, who assumed the position of a lawyer for this especial occasion. Mr. Hunter's counsel was Col. M. Thompson.
>
> The first witness called was Mr. Savage, who

stated that while he was addressing an audience on Pennsylvania avenue, last Sunday afternoon, Mr. Huuter assaulted him by throwing eggs at at him. He was struck both in the face and on the side of the head by two of those missiles. He was not, however, much injured.

Colonel Thompson. You state that two eggs were thrown at you.

Mr. Savage. Yes, sir.
Colonel Thompson. State what you were doing at the time.

Mr. Savage. I was advocating the temperance

cause. I don't know what my precise language was. It was in front of Upperman's store. Just previous to receiving the blows from the eggs, I obous to receiving the blows from the eggs, I observed a crowd near the house said to be occupied by Madame Hunter. I inquired into the cause, and was told that a man named Williams had drawn the crowd around him. I then said I thought it was a party of Madame Hunter's boys, and should thereafter call them by that name. Between Mr. Upperman's and Madame Hunter's a lot intervenes. There were about a hundred persons present and they occupied the present a lot intervenes. There were about a hundred persons present, and they occupied the pavement. I saw ladies passing, but they were not obliged to go into the street to get past. That is all I said on that occasion, previous to the blows. The first egg was a rotten one, and smelt offensively all the evening. [Laughter.] I saw Mr. Hunter throw four eggs, two of which struck me.

Col. Thompson. You think, then, that the first was a bad egg!

Mr. Savage, (smiling.) I do. The first egg hit my face.

my face.

Col. Thompson. What effect had the seco

egg?
Mr. Savage. It dirtied me; soiled my coar That is all the violence I received. I was ordered to clear out by that individual (pointing to Hunter) and some others. It is the first time I was ever struck in any way, except, perhaps, with the stump of a cigar or a quid of tobacco thrown by

some blackguard. (Laughter.)

Col. Thompson: You are accustomed to hold forth in this manner on Sundays?

forth in this manner on Sundays?

Mr. Savage. Yes, sir.

Col. Thompson then asked another question, which was ruled the witness need not answer.

Col. Thompson remarked that they expected to show that such personal harangues were calculated to create a breach of the peace, and a nuisance which any man aggrieved had a right to abate; and with eggs, if he choose, whether sound or unsound. Mr. Savage, will you state what language you ever applied to Mr. Hunter, or any member of his family?

Mr. Herrington (interposing.) We have nothing

Mr. Herrington (interposing.) We have nothing a do with any case prior to that of last Sunday.

Col. Thompson. I want to show that there is a